



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

(3) "That the evidence for these conclusions strongly supports measures, which on other grounds are of pressing importance, for placing mentally defective persons, men and women, who are living at large and uncontrolled, in institutions where they will be employed and detained, and in this and other ways, kept under effectual supervision so long as may be necessary."

The "evidence concerning fertility" referred to is to the effect that mental defectives are about twice as fertile as normal individuals. Sixteen feeble-minded women in one workhouse together produced one hundred and sixteen children! The Commission concludes that the people would rightly condemn surgical and other artificial interference to prevent hereditary transmission of mental defect. Of twenty-one witnesses who mentioned the subject only three expressed opinions in favor of the practicability of such a course. As to preventing the marriage of defectives, they are equally conservative, and think it would be unwise to modify the existing law.

As to the number of mental defectives, their returns are rather startling. It has been generally held that two to every thousand of the population was a conservative estimate. The Commission find in Scotland 2.5 per thousand, in England 4.6, and in Ireland 5.7. If these figures are reliable, they furnish much food for thought and suggest many things in sociology.

The practical side of the work of the Commission is embodied in ninety-six recommendations for England and Wales, forty-three for Scotland and seventy-four for Ireland.

H. H. GODDARD.

*Das Gedächtnis; die Ergebnisse der experimentellen Psychologie und ihre Anwendung in Unterricht und Erziehung*, von DR. MAX OFFNER. Berlin, Reuther & Reichard, 1909. pp. X: 238.

The chapter of Memory is one of the oldest in Psychology and one of the most voluminous in its literature. Even the experimental literature which began only twenty-five years ago with the work of Ebbinghaus has reached serious proportions. A work like this of Offner's which gathers up and co-ordinates with judicial fairness the results obtained by the large body of different workers is, therefore, particularly welcome. Though the book is intended in the first instance for teachers and for those who are entering psychology through their interest in memory, and for this reason has been kept close to essentials and purged of unnecessary technicalities, it will be found not to come amiss to the working psychologist whose labors have kept him in other fields and who wishes to put himself rapidly in touch with recent work on memory. The material is systematically presented and made further accessible by an analytical table of contents and full indexes. A bibliography of 181 titles, though not all upon the experimental studies of memory, is also included. The work as a whole is well calculated to fulfil the author's hope that it may promote a "comprehension of the methods of the newer psychology and confidence in them."

E. C. S.

*Ce que l'Armée peut être pour la Nation*. Par le Lieutenant adjoint d'État-Major A. FASTREZ. Paris, Misch et Thron, 1907. pp. xiii, 294.

This work was called forth by Mlle. Joteyko's book on *Entraînement et fatigue au point de vue militaire*, 1905, and seeks to refute, on behalf of the Belgian army, the conclusion arrived at by its author and accepted by Prof. Richet, that the limit of military training is satisfactorily attained at the end of six to twelve months. M. Fastrez believes, on the contrary, that it is unwise to reduce the present term

of twenty months' effective service; he argues that Mlle. Joteyko has unduly narrowed the concept of training, and has overlooked the economic position and importance of the army.

The book opens with a chapter upon physical training, and its distinction from psychological. M. Fastrez then proceeds to outline the course of physical (including professional) training imparted to recruits and to appraise its results. He passes to the question of the psychological training of the soldier, and makes out a strong case for his side, mainly by reference to the events of the Russo-Japanese war. The psychological training which the recruit receives during his twenty months with the colors must be supplemented by similar training in the family, in the schools, and from the social environment at large.

M. Fastrez is thus led to consider the economic rôle of the army in the modern state. He points out, with especial reference to the history of Rome, the part played in the economic development of the ancient world by the peculiar circumstances of the military class, and declares that there is a close agreement, to-day, between the qualities of the trained combatant and the qualities of the economic worker. He shows that the maintenance of an army, as organ of defence, is implied in the struggle that pervades all nature, and particularly in the economic war that has come with the lessening of world-distances and the spread of imperialism. He ends with a paragraph on the resulting danger to small nations, which cannot afford to neglect any means for obtaining full returns, social, economic and 'energetic,' from the armed group of their populations. An appendix criticises, unfavorably, the outcome of the experiment recently made in England by Colonel Pollock and his 'Spectator' company.

M. W. WISEMAN.

*The Methods and Scope of Genetics*, by W. BATESON. University Press, Cambridge, 1908. 49 p.

This address is a simplified statement of the theory of heredity as it has evolved in recent years under the influence of Mendelism, which has shed new light on the general thesis that everything that lives is not one thing but two, double throughout in every part of its composition. It teaches that we are assemblages or medleys of our parental characteristics, and establishes a law as to the prepotence of each of the moieties of heredity that come to us from the two parents. "If both parent-gametes brought a certain quality in, then all the daughter-gametes have it; if neither brought it in, then none of the daughter-gametes have it; if it came from one side and not from the other, then on an average in half the resulting gametes it will be present, and from half it will be absent." This last phenomenon, which is called "segregation," constitutes the essence of Mendel's discovery. The rest of the lecture gives a rapid, popular sketch of many special studies upon plants, animals and men that illustrate these general laws, which for the first time have given to variation and reversion a concrete and palpable meaning. "The time for discussing evolution as a problem at large is closed. We face that problem now as one soluble by minute, critical analysis." Variation is a definite, physiological event, viz.: the addition or omission of one or more definite elements; and reversion is that particular addition or subtraction which brings the total of the elements back to something it had been before in the history of the race.

*Heredity, Variation, and Evolution in Protozoa, II*, by H. S. JENNINGS. Reprint from Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. XLVII, No. 190, 1908, pp. 393-546.

The author, who has made valuable contributions to the psychology